

REMARKS

Claims 1-61 are pending in the present application.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed October 03, 2006. In the Office Action, the Examiner stated, "Claims 26, 27, 31, 48-51 and 57-61 are allowed". The Examiner, however, rejected claims 1-5 and 32-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), claims 32 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and claims 6 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicant has canceled claims 1-6 and 32-38. Therefore the rejections are now moot.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the allowed claims and is looking forward to receive a Notice of Allowance soon.

I. LISTING OF CLAIMS

Applicant acknowledges that claims 39-46 were not included in the version submitted on 07/26/2006 since these claims were withdrawn from the examination.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 32-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2003/0063342 A1 filed by Horimai ("Horimai"). The Examiner also rejected claims 32 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,946,286 issued to Bahns ("Bahns").

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-5, 32-36 and 38. Therefore, the rejections are now moot. Applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn.

III. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 6 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horimai. Applicant has cancelled claims 6 and 37. Therefore the rejection is now moot. Applicant respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn.

IV. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

In the Office Action, claims 26, 27, 31, 48-51 and 57-61 are allowable for the reasons set forth in the Office Action mailed April 27, 2006. Again, Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for these allowable claims.

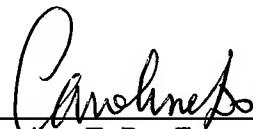
CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any required fees associated with this Communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1175.

Respectfully submitted,
DISCOVISION ASSOCIATES

Dated: Nov. 29, 2004



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